



William "Bill" Ralph Gum

APR 30, 1932 - NOV 25, 2014



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Table of Contents

Obituary	Page 3
Tribute Wall	Page 5



William "Bill" Ralph Gum

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William "Bill" Gum, age 82, of Bethany Beach, DE passed away at his home on Tuesday, November 25, 2014. He was born on April 30, 1932, son of the late James E. and Frances (Pearson) Gum.

Bill was born in Boston, MA but spent most of his early years in Maine. He served his country in the United States Air Force and retired from Northrop-Grumman after more than 20 years of service. While living in Maine, Bill met Faith, his wife of 38 years, with whom he raised three children, Susan, William and Joseph. Sadly, Faith passed away in 1991. Bill later married Shirley. He and Shirley retired to Bethany Beach, DE where they spent many years together until Shirley's passing in 2008.

Bill was an avid reader, who also enjoyed fishing, tying flies and hunting. He loved to spend time golfing, baking, woodworking, gardening, and completing crosswords. He always had a good story to share, a riddle to ask, and a joke to tell. In his more recent years, Bill also greatly enjoyed volunteering at the South Coastal Library and attending services at the Millville United Methodist Church where he was also an usher.

In addition to his parents, Bill was preceded in death by his first wife Faith and his second wife Shirley, a brother James Gum and two sisters Elizabeth (Betty) and Ruth. Bill is survived by his three children: Susan Widener of Columbia, PA, William R. Gum, Jr. and his wife Lonnie, of Manheim, PA and Joseph W. Gum, of Harwood, MD, five grandchildren: Elizabeth, wife of Victor Salvatore, of Mount Joy, PA, Sarah, wife of Lev Tayts, of Lancaster, PA, Brandon Gum of Gettysburg, PA, Ashli, wife of Adam Stetter, of Lancaster, PA, and Mason Widener of Columbia, PA, four great-grandchildren: Andrew, Alex, Lucas and Maxwell, one sister, Barbara Perkins and a brother Richard "Alan" Gum, both of Maine.

A Funeral Service will be held on Saturday, December 13, 2014 at 10:30 AM at the Millville United Methodist Church, 36405 Club House Road, Millville, DE 19970 where friends may visit



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beginning at 9:30 AM. Interment will follow services in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, 32112 Vines Creek Road, Dagsboro, DE 19939.

Please sign Bill's online guestbook at this site.

[PDF Printable Version](#)



Tribute Wall

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BD

Barry Degraw posted:

Sorry to hear about Bill. I knew him many years even back to MED in 1966. At this time he is now with Shirley and the rest of his family and friends. God bless.

December 10 at 8:00 PM

SS

Shelly & Jeff Smith posted:

We miss Bill terribly and will always miss visiting on our thrift shopping trips in his neighborhood. Bill even shopped for me when I was searching for a specific item for our OC house. And my Mom, Aunt and I would swing by to see him on our traditional Easter trips. Bill always had chocolate chip cookies for me & Jeff to fight over and frequently offered samples of his banana nut bread that only he could bake!!! And of course let's not forget the wine; one of his favorites, Nissley's "Naughty Marietta". Bill taught us so much and helped on many occasions in Ocean City; i.e., once he visited while Jeff was in the process of dealing with a frozen outside shower pipe! Not one of the fun visits, haha! He has not been the same since Shirley's passing six years ago, and now we can remember them both knowing that they're back together.

December 9 at 8:00 PM

JM

Joyce Mclouski posted:

Bill, Rest in peace dear friend. I will miss your wonderful dry sense of humor and the hysterical stories you told that kept us laughing throughout our many years of friendship.

December 3 at 8:00 PM



Memories only last if you share them

Join us in honoring William by contributing to a collection of shared memories.



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